



EOC Daily Emergency Management Report

Date: 01/24/2014
Time: 10:00 EST
Report No: 015-14

Alerts & Warnings

FEMA National Watch Center – Watch/Steady State
National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) – No Current Alerts
Continuity of Operations (COOP) COGCON Level is 4
EPA HQ at Level 6 (Steady State)

EPA Headquarters Activities

The ASPECT (Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology) aircraft is located in Addison, TX and is operational and available for deployment.

The Portable High Throughput Integrated Laboratory Identification Systems (PHILIS) located in Edison, NJ and in Castle Rock, CO are operational and available for deployment.

The ERT Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) (Las Vegas, Edison, and RTP) and Mobile Command & HazMat Truck (Erlanger and Las Vegas) are available for deployment.

Significant National Weather

Severe Weather: No organized severe thunderstorm activity is forecast for today.

Significant Flood Outlook: There is significant river flooding occurring today along the border of South Carolina and Georgia.

Critical Fire Weather: Critical fire weather is forecast today in portions of southern California. An elevated fire threat also exists in southeastern Oregon, northern California and southern California as well as in northern Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. The presence of high winds, dry fuels, and gusty winds continue in these areas.

Tornado Weather: There is a less than a 2-percent chance of tornado activity in all regions today.

Earthquake Activity: No significant earthquake activity.

Tropical Weather: There is no tropical cyclone activity impacting any lands at this time.

Report of Incident Notifications

Update: Region 4, Biodiesel Facility Fire, New Albany, MS

On 1/22 at 06:00 local time, an explosion and fire occurred at a biodiesel facility, JNS Biodiesel LLC (aka North Mississippi Diesel –previous owner), in New Albany, MS. The facility makes biodiesel fuel from cotton seed, animal fats and other materials. Based on news reports, no injuries were reported and all workers have been accounted for. A second explosion occurred at 13:50 EST from a reactor vessel processing animal fat, methanol and glycerin. MS Highway 15 was closed to traffic. Oily material was running offsite via a field ditch but material was contained within the ditch to minimize migration. The facility has environmental contractors on site who are conducting air monitoring and collecting samples and will later conduct remediation. The evacuation remains in place. Air monitoring activities by the contractor and the 47th CST indicate no sustained levels of concern.

The fire was extinguished last night (January 23) by approximately 18:30 local time. Overnight the cleanup contractor began pumping oil from on-site ditch areas. The liquids are being contained in bulk (frac) tanks staged on-site. Berms were reinforced in anticipation of rising temperatures and thawing ice in impacted drainage ditches. The contractor will initiate building a temporary roadway to provide access for equipment to remove liquids, and eventually, excavated soils. EPA and MDEQ will meet with the owner and the cleanup contractor this morning to establish a scope of work for remediation activities. Hwy 15 was reopened and it is anticipated County EMA will demobilize their command post, related personnel, and equipment today.

Update: Region 3, Chemical Spill, Charleston WV – January 24, 2014

On January 10, the President approved an Emergency Declaration for 10 counties in West Virginia after 4-methylcyclohexanemethanol (MCHM) leaked from a tank and through a secondary containment area at a Freedom Industries chemical plant and into the Elk River in Charleston, WV. The spill occurred near the West Virginia American Water (WVAW) Treatment Plant. West Virginia water authorities issued a “Do Not Use Water Notice” for 10 counties telling them not to use tap water for drinking, cooking, washing, or bathing, which impacted 100,000 customers (300,000 people).

On 1/23, EPA took a sample of the MCHM/PPH mixture that is being staged at the POCA Blending Facility. This material was removed from Tanks 395, 396 (failed tank), and 397 at Freedom Industries. The material from Tank 396 was mixed with the other tanks went the material was taken off-site for storage. The facility stated that the MCHM/PPH ratio in Tanks 395 and 397 may differ slightly from that of Tank 396. The sample will be sent to the EPA lab at Ft. Meade with delivery expected today.

Currently, the facility is attempting to pump out the sumps on and off the property, but is battling freezing temperatures. The contents of the hoses are frozen but it does not appear that the water/ice in the sumps has risen. The facility also continues to monitor the boom along the river edge to ensure the ice does not build up. Currently there is no ice buildup on the bank.

The facility announced that all the water pumped from the site will be taken to Big Run Landfill of Ashland, KY. WVDEP suggested that Freedom Industries, WVDEP, EPA, and the Coast Guard meet to discuss the contents of Freedom’s Remediation Plan. That meeting has not yet been scheduled.

There were 21 epaosc.org websites created and/or updated during this reporting period (1/23/14-1/24/14).

Exercises/Predeployments

There are no exercises or predeployments today.

Regional Daily Ops Status Report

Reported activities primarily represent NRC notifications with some State-level and other notifications to Regional Phone Duty Officers.

Reported Activities (1/23/14-1/24/14)

Region	Oil	Hazmat	Radiation	Other	Total
Region 1	1	0	0	0	1
Region 2	2	1	0	0	3
Region 3	0	0	0	0	0
Region 4	13	0	0	0	13
Region 5	4	2	0	1	7
Region 6	2	4	0	1	7
Region 7	2	1	0	1	4
Region 8	1	2	0	1	4
Region 9	8	1	0	0	9
Region 10	1	2	0	1	4
Total	34	13	0	5	52

Note: There were 7 unclassified events in the Hotline Log

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